

A GRAPHIC NOVEL BY THE NAVAL HEALTH RESEARCH CENTER



A GRAPHIC NOVEL

PRODUCED BY THE NAVAL HEALTH RESEARCH CENTER

PREPARED BY RTI INTERNATIONAL

THE DOCS TEAM

AUTHORS

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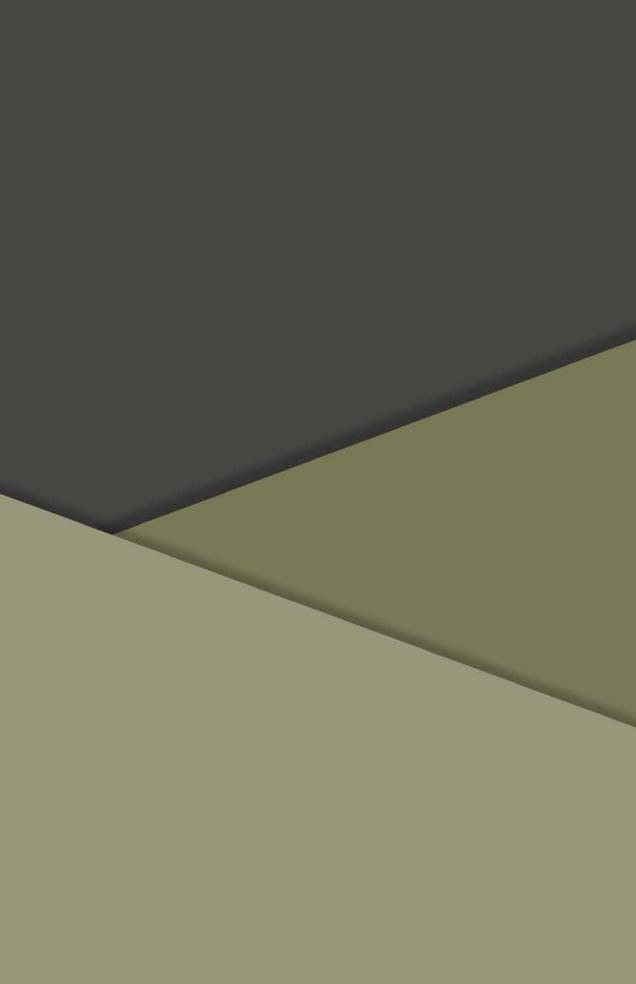
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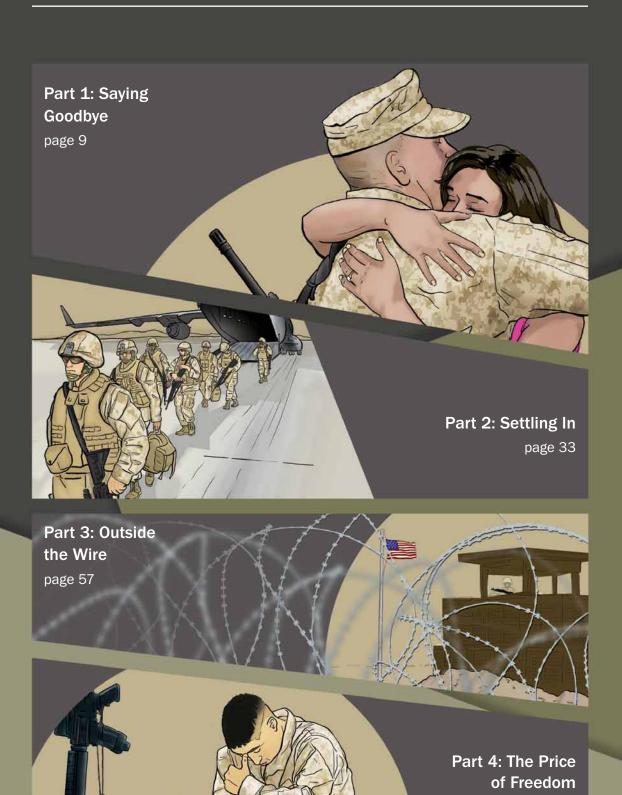


DEDICATION This story is dedicated to all Navy Corpsmen—past, present, and future—who stand in harm's way and selflessly honor their vow to care for those wounded during combat, either in body or spirit.

AUTHORS' NOTE

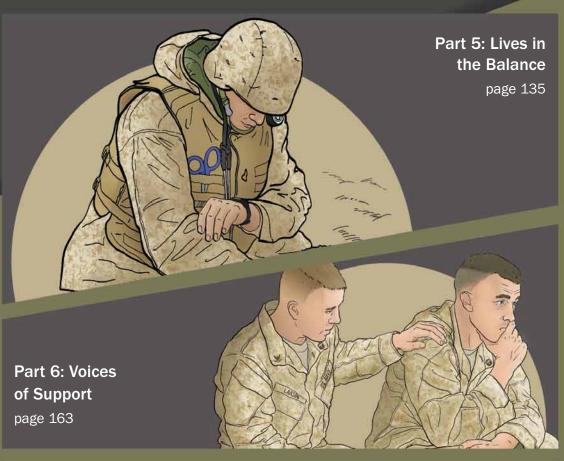
The Docs is the story of four Navy Corpsmen deployed to Iraq. While some events in the novel are specific to Operation Iraqi Freedom, this graphic novel is not intended to depict any specific time period or conflict. Rather, it represents a more general view of military life within a combat zone. The intent is to highlight challenges faced by Corpsmen in all wars. The commitment of Corpsmen to meeting these challenges is, like the story itself, timeless.

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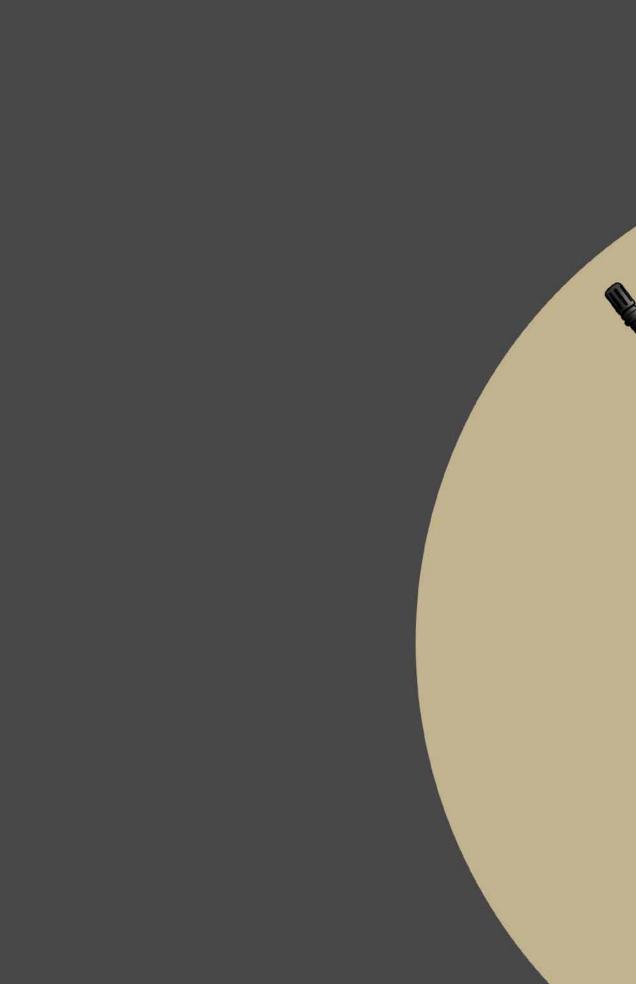


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Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base, California Mission: Operation Iraqi Freedom



HM3 Jason Banks USN, Kilo Company, Marine Infantry Battalion Age: 19





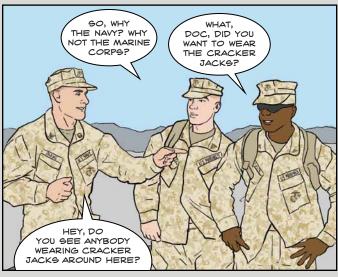


































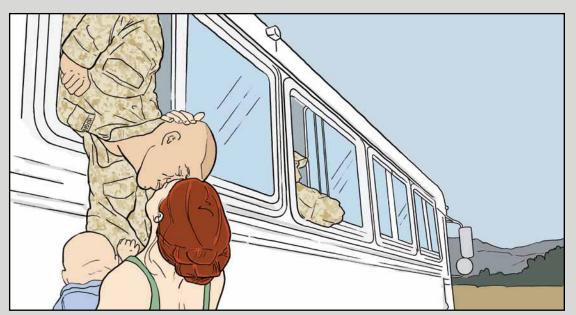






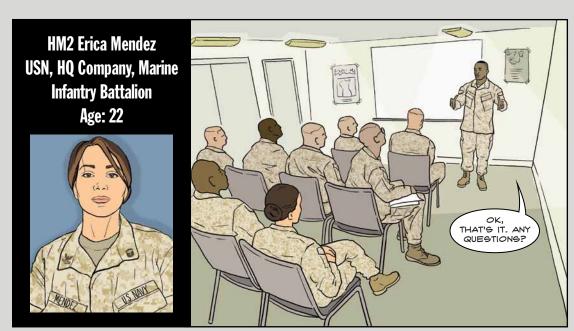


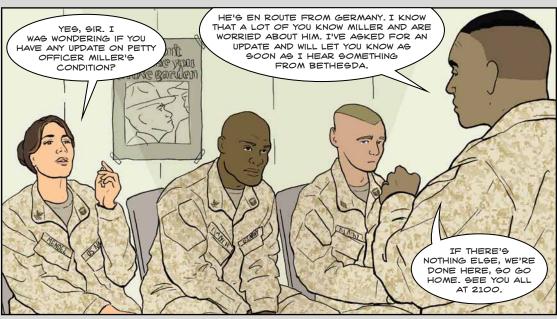










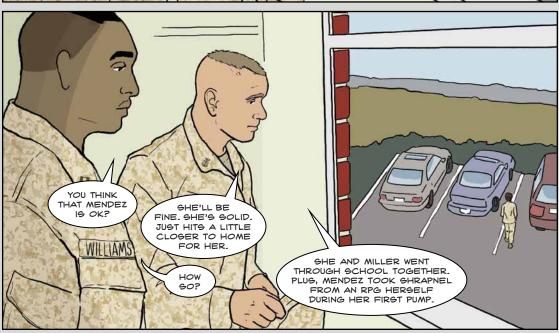










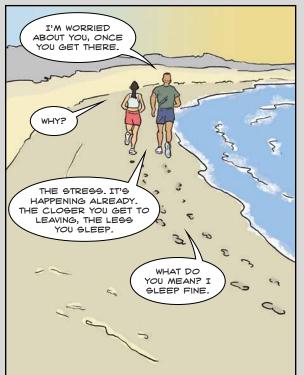




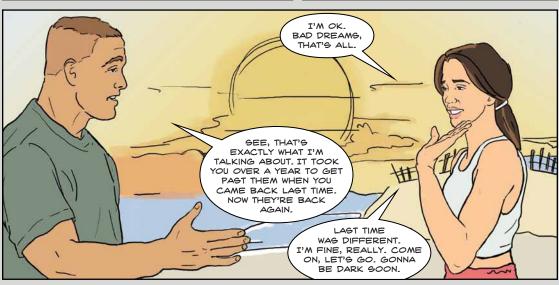








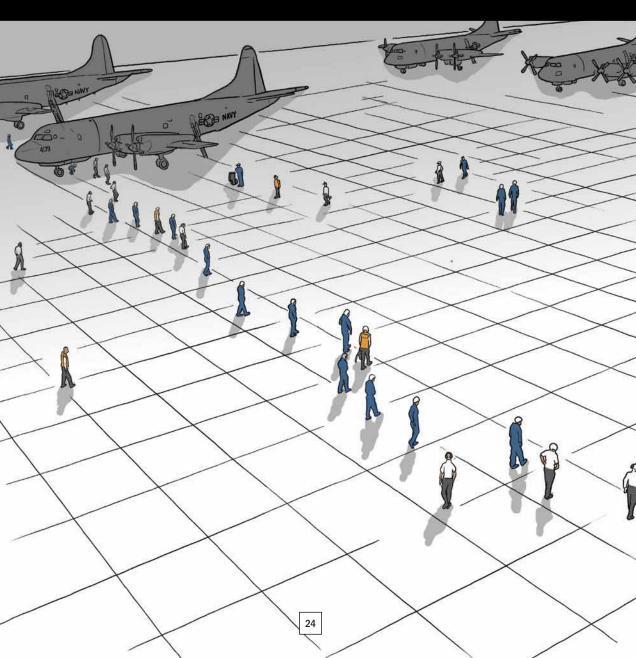








Naval Mobile Construction Battalion, Naval Air Station, Florida Mission: Support Construction Projects in Central Iraq





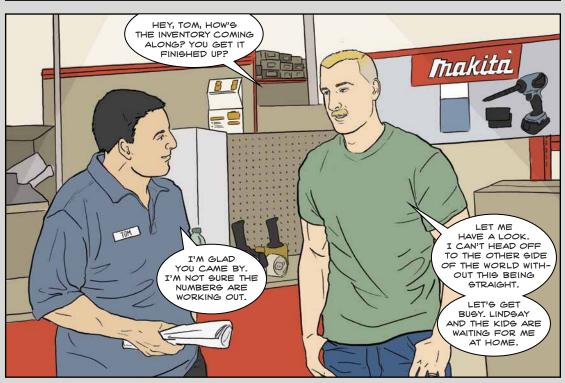




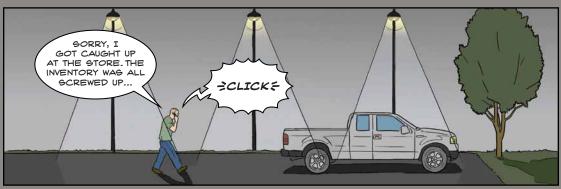






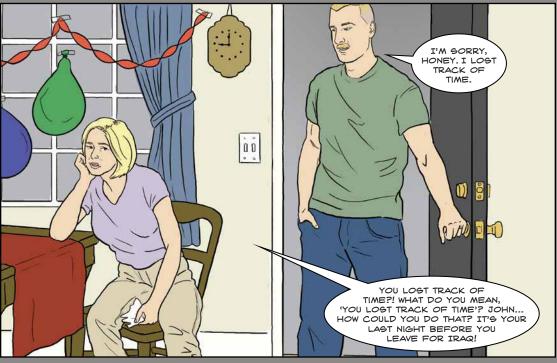


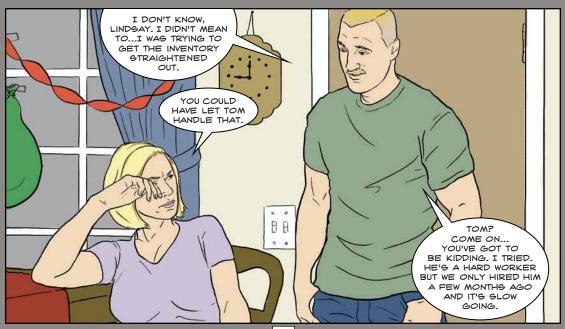












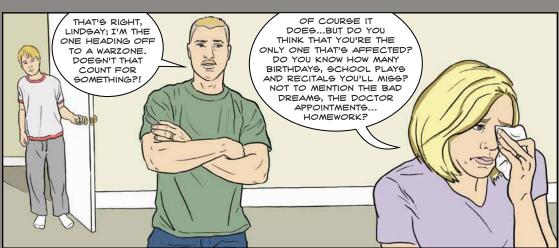




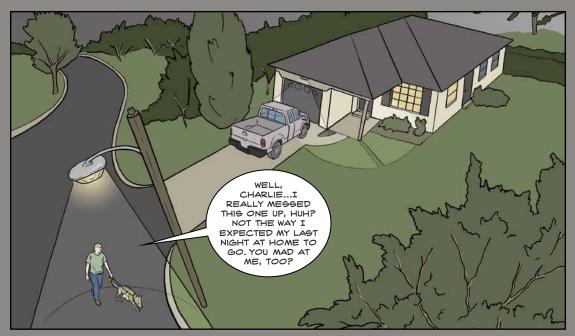


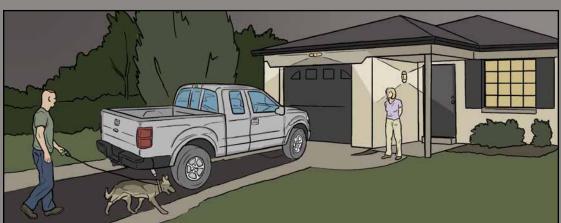












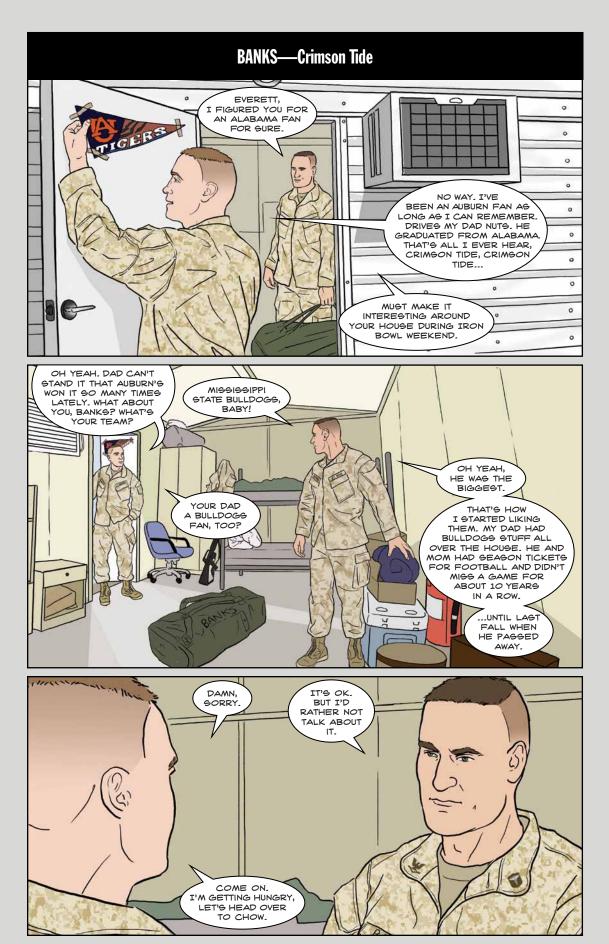




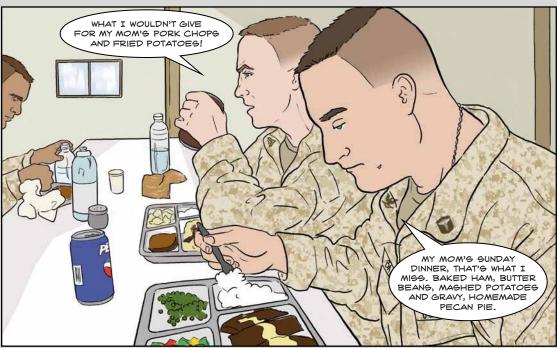


Marine Infantry Battalion, FOB, Western Iraq

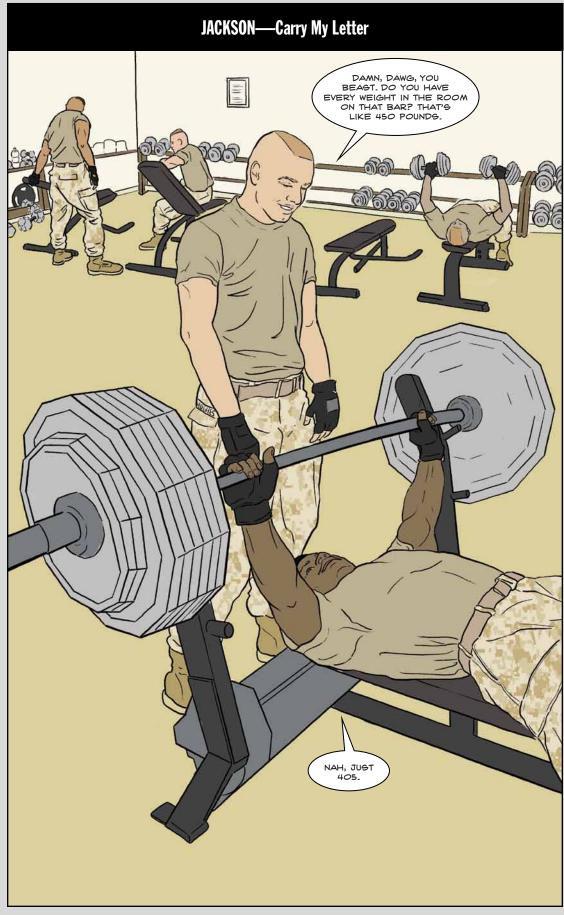


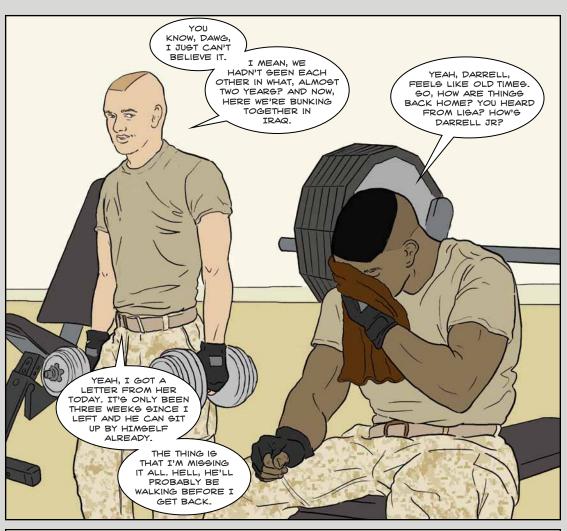


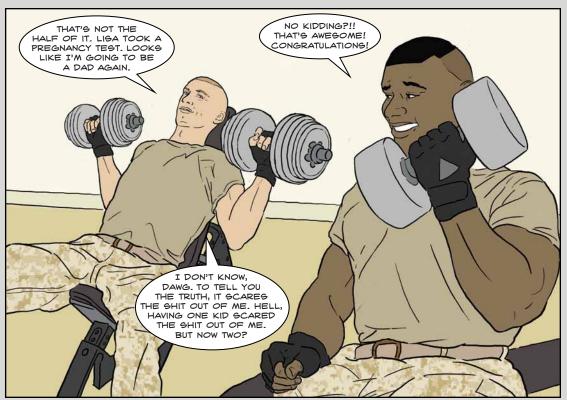


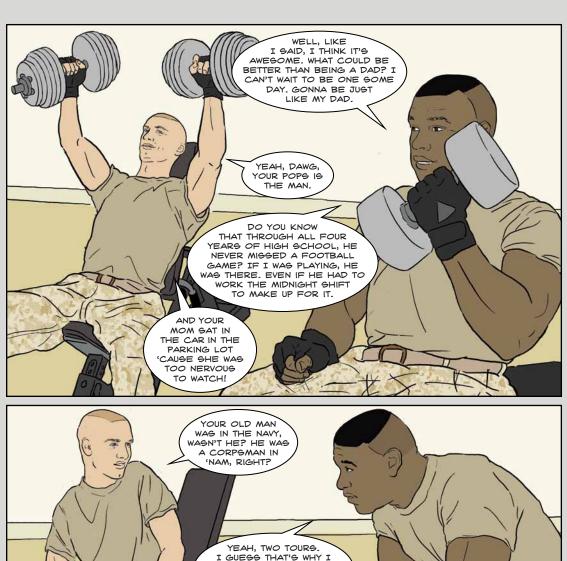










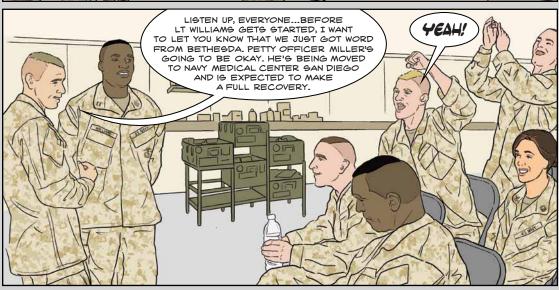


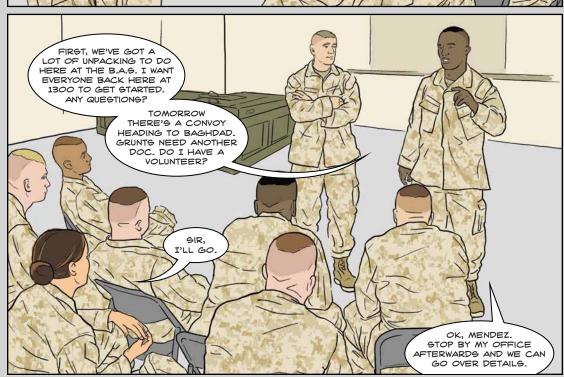




















Alpha Company, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion, Dam FOB, Western Iraq

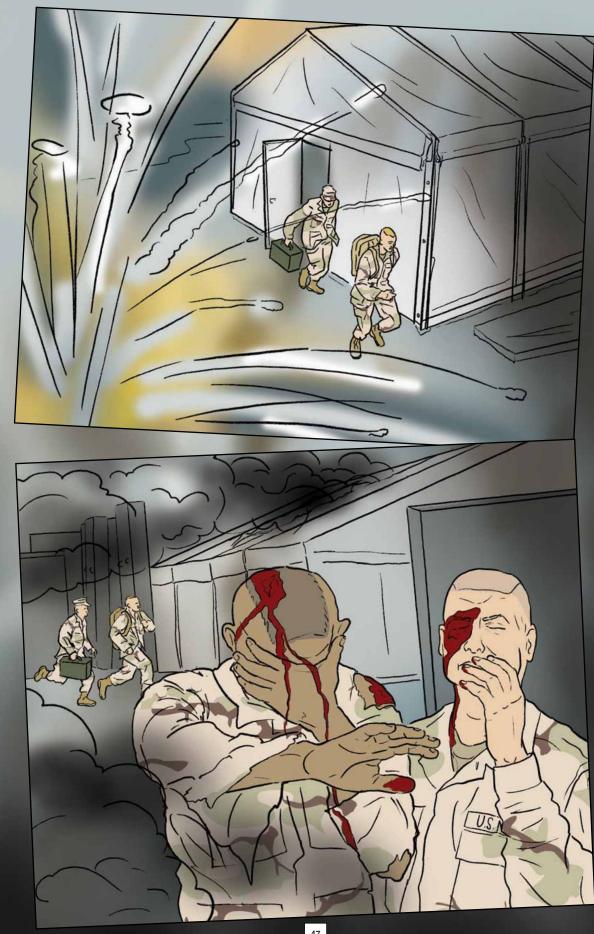










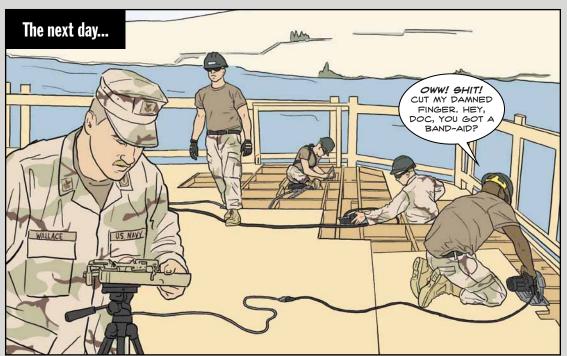














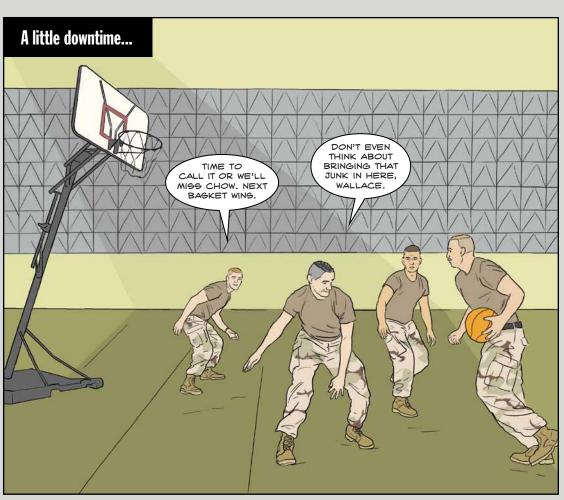






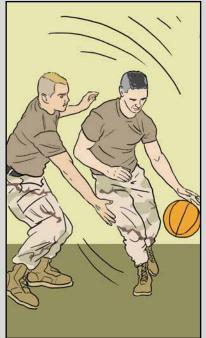


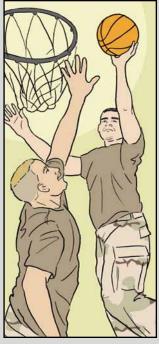


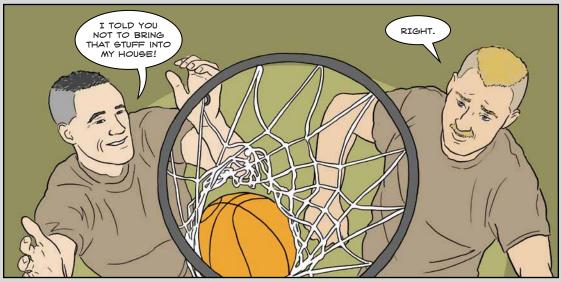




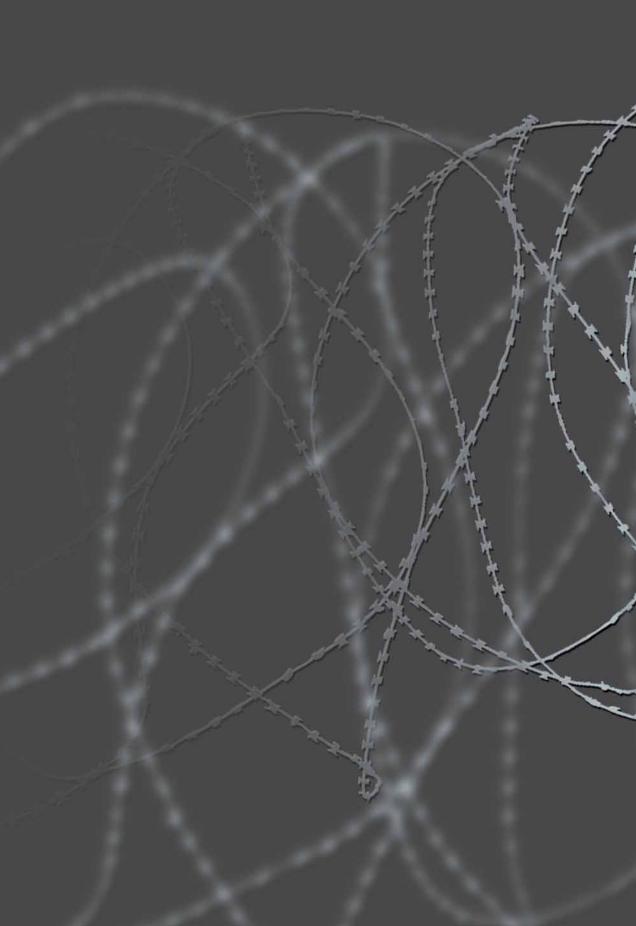




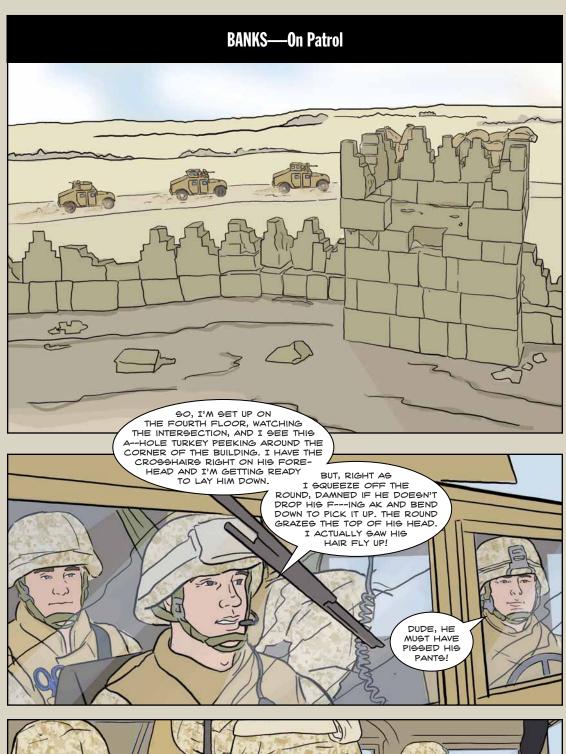


















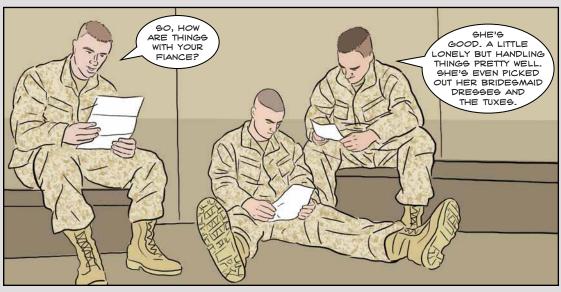




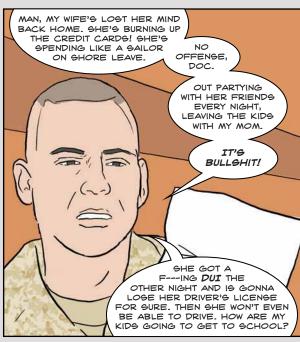




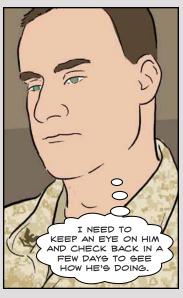






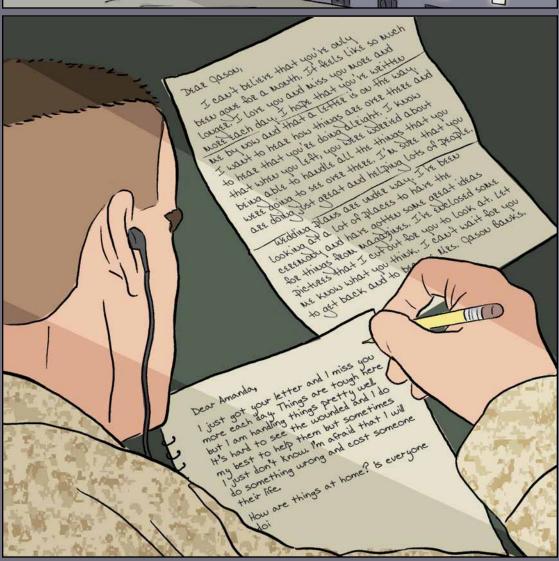




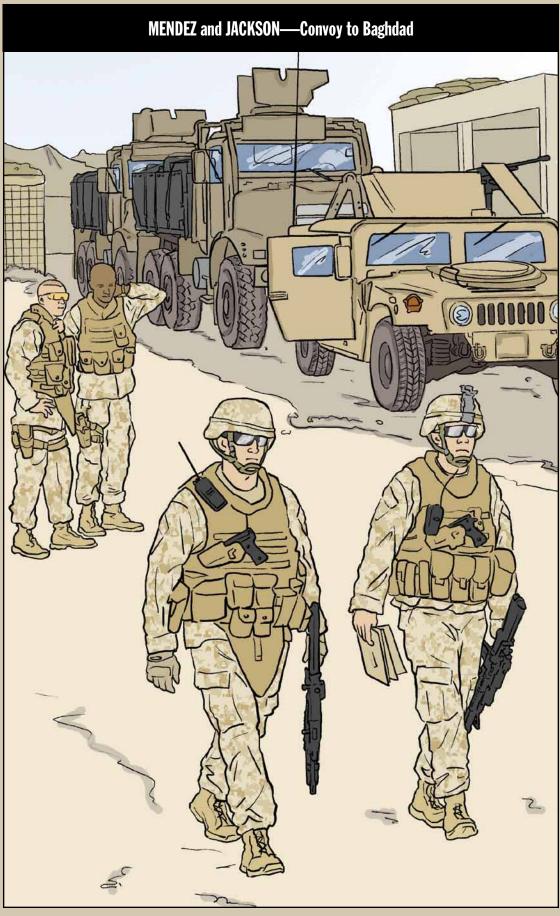


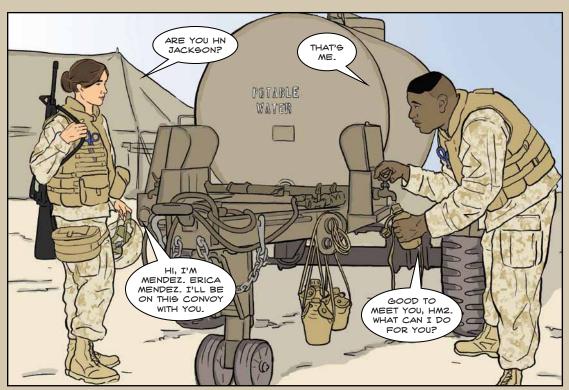








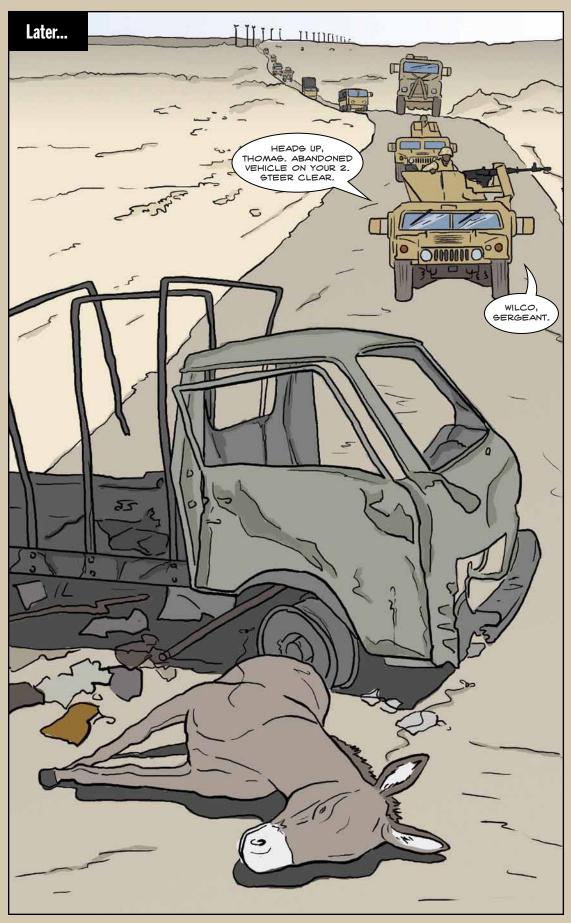




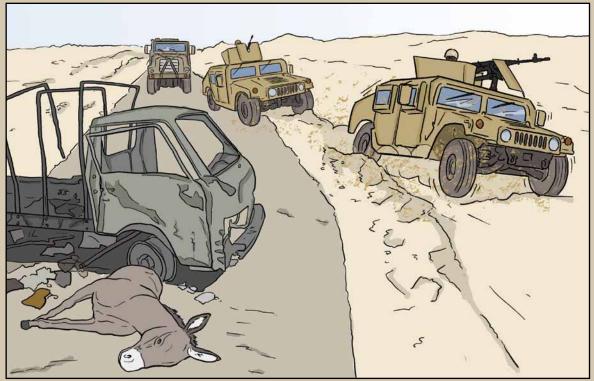


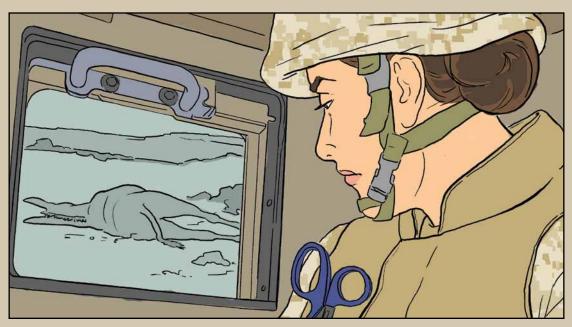


















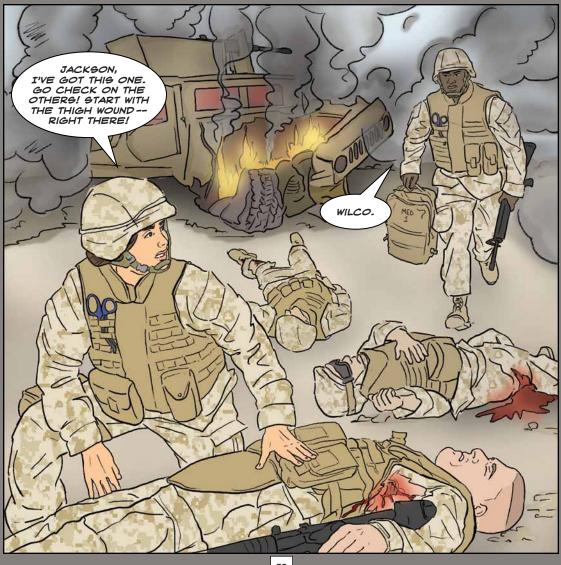








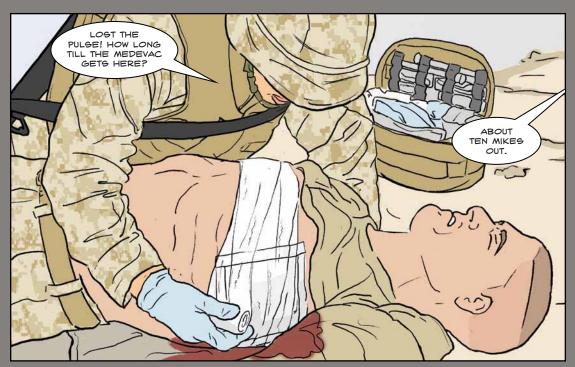
















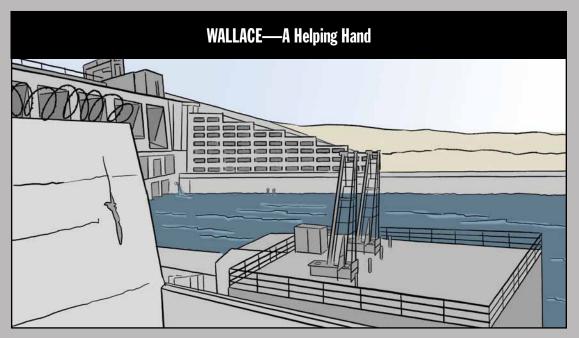


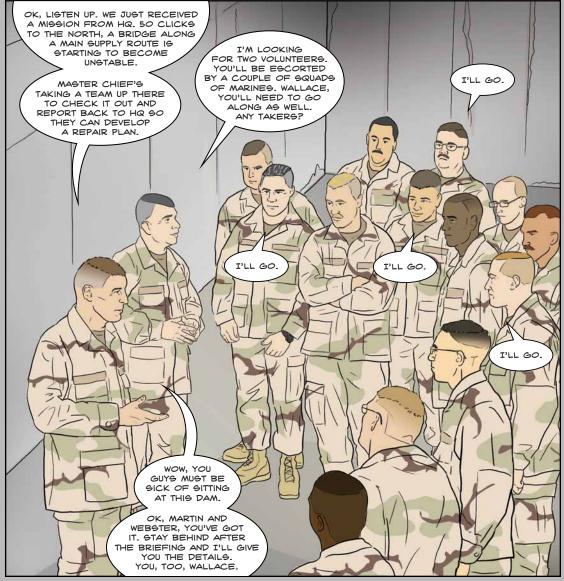


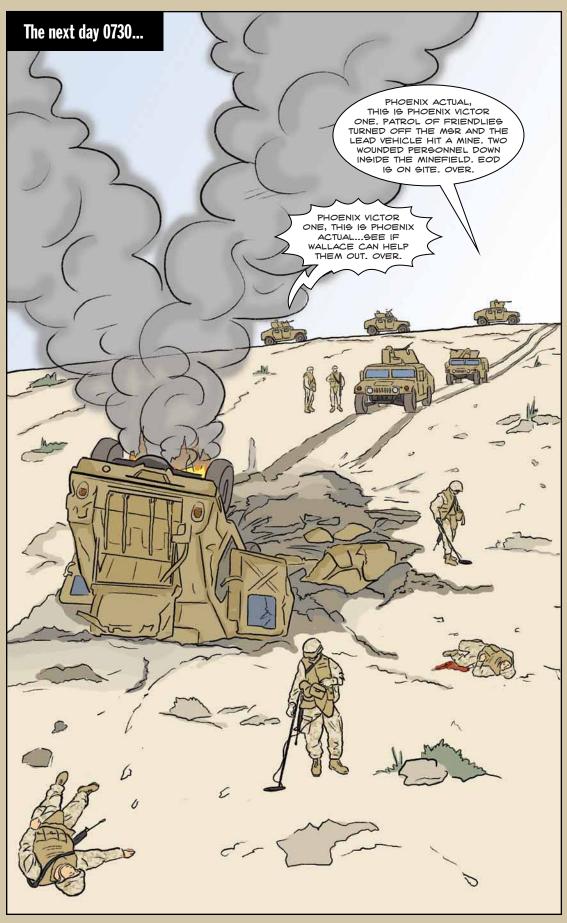










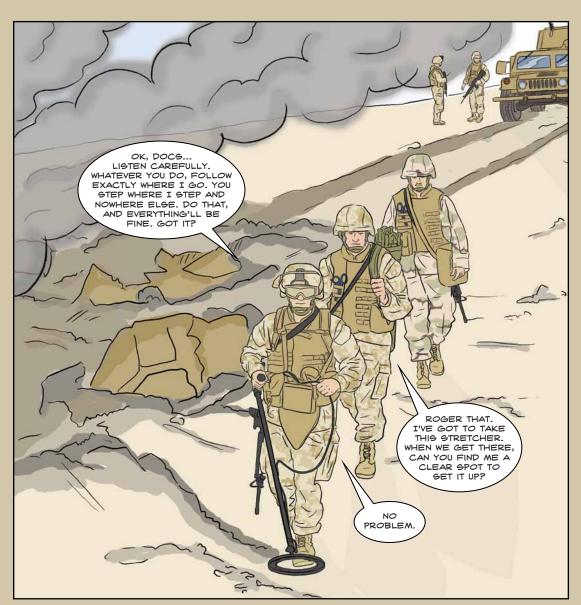






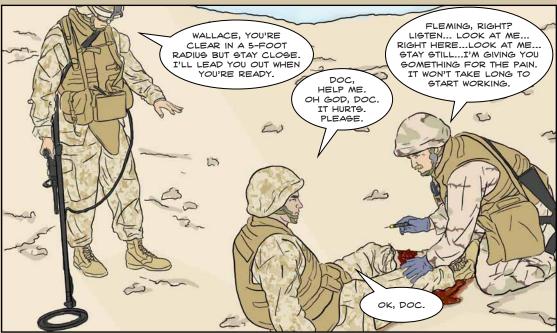










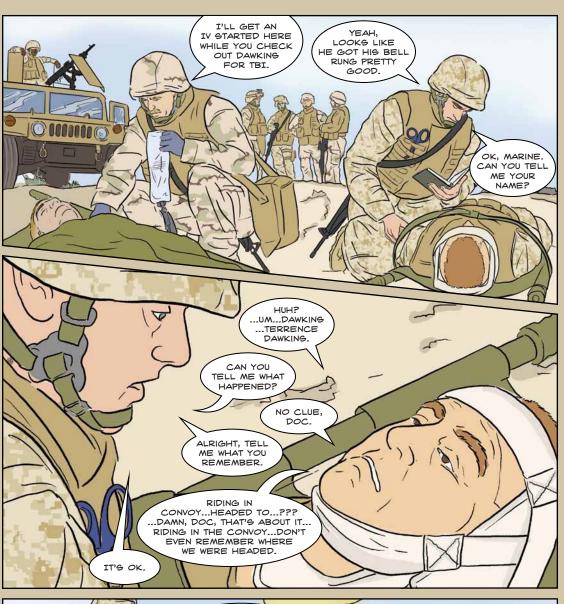








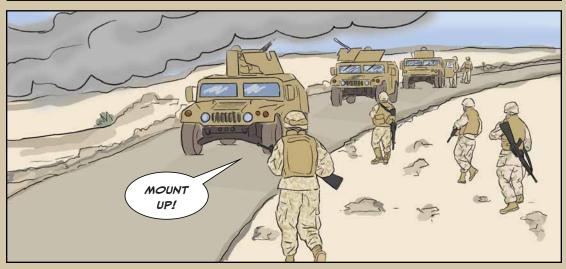








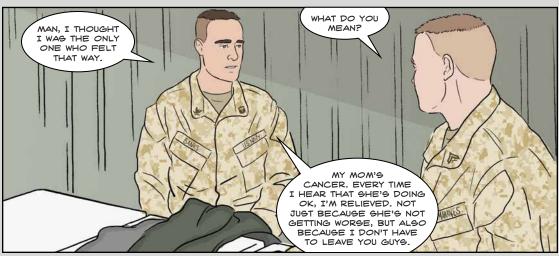




BANKS—Something in Common HEY, YOU HEAR THE GOOD NEWS? FILEMING'S LEG'S LOCKING GOOD... HE'LL BE BACK TO THE UNIT IN A WEEK OR TWO.





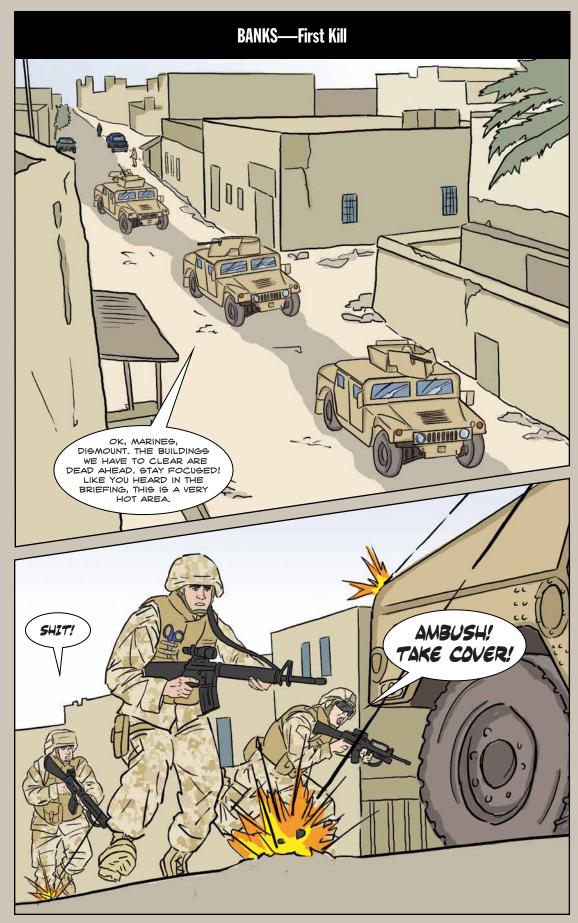














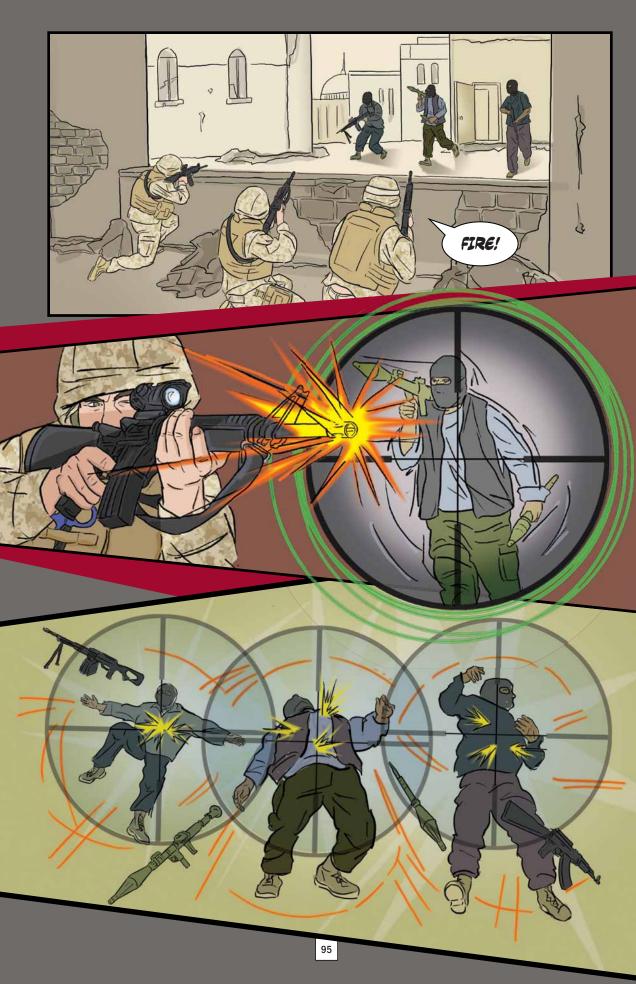




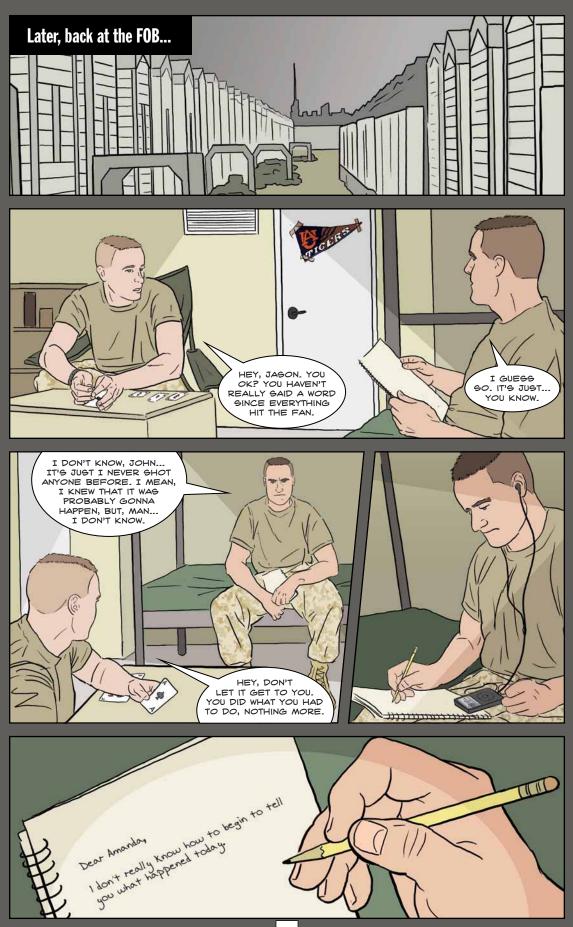




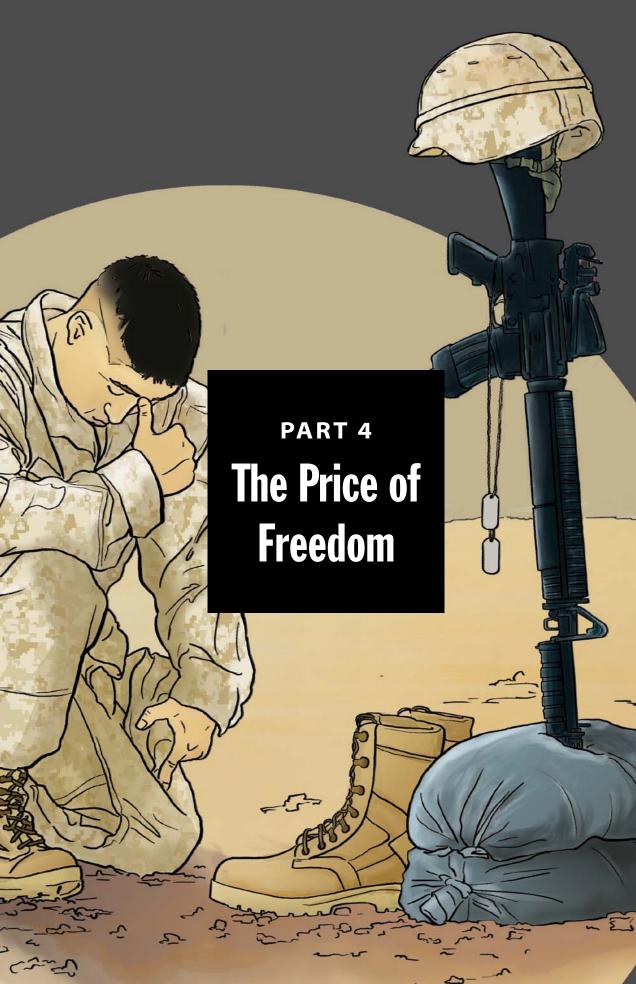








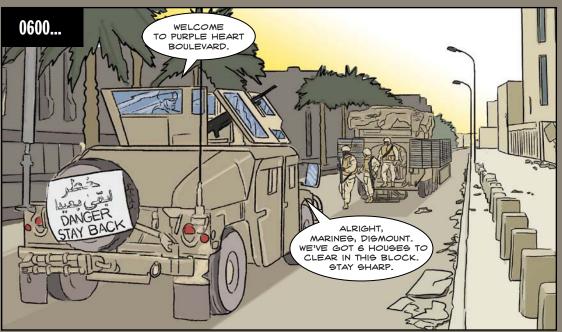










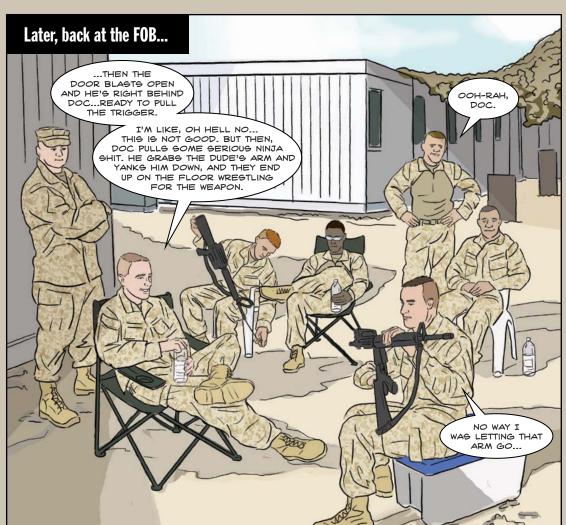














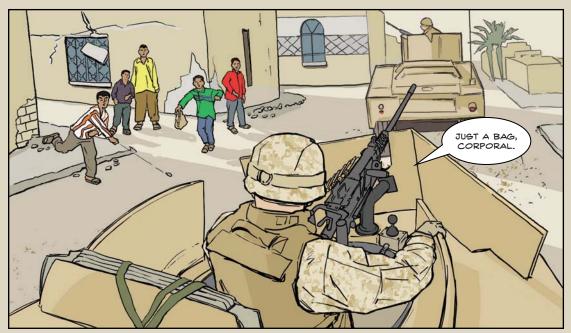
JACKSON—A Tough Decision

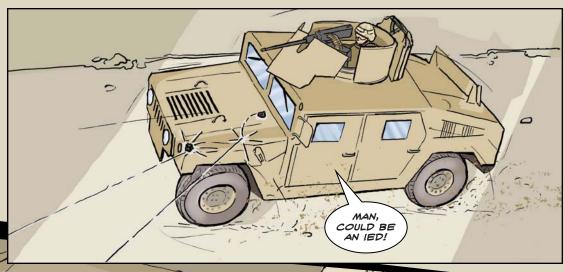






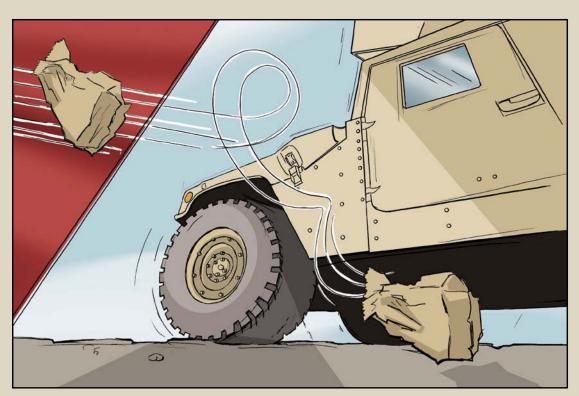




















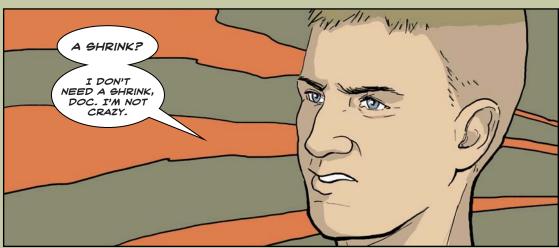












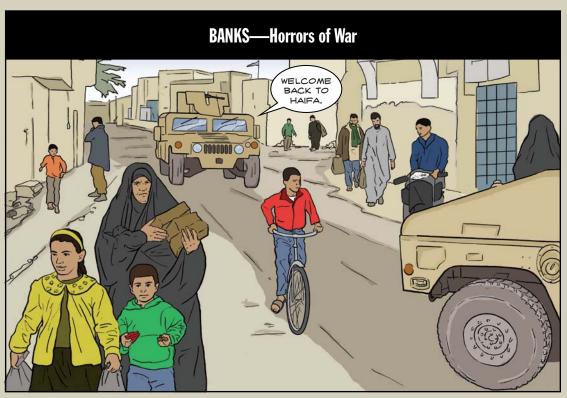








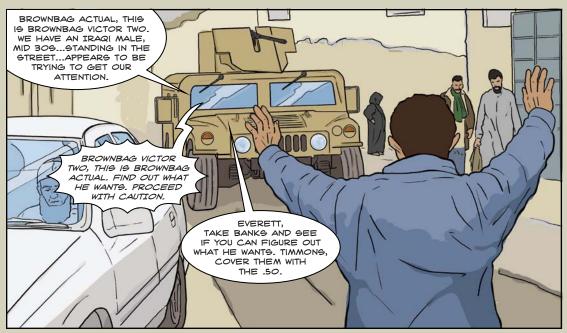






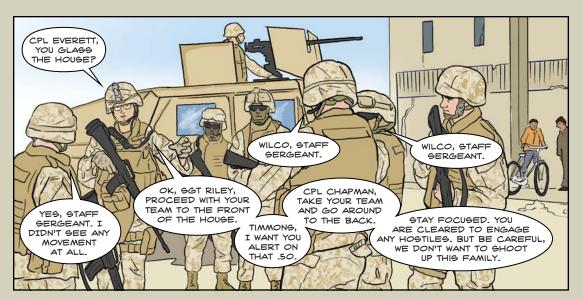












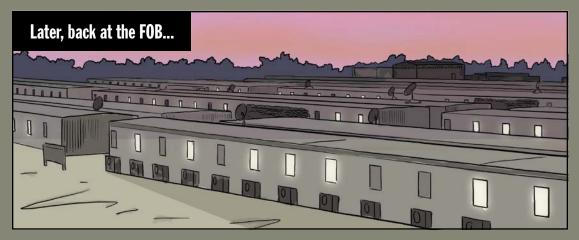




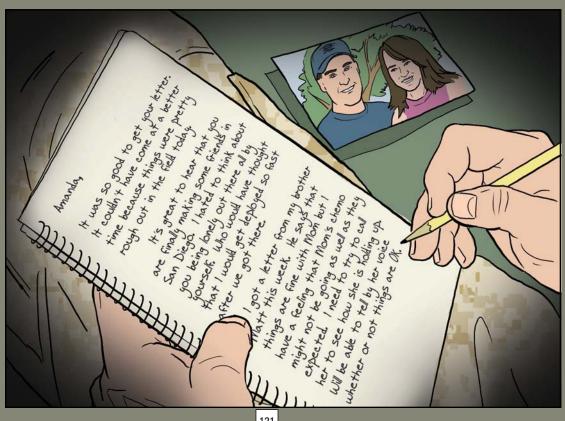


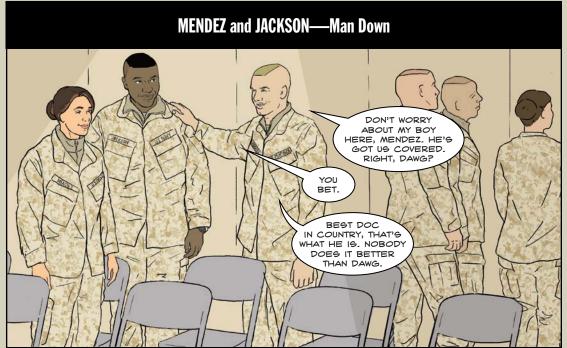










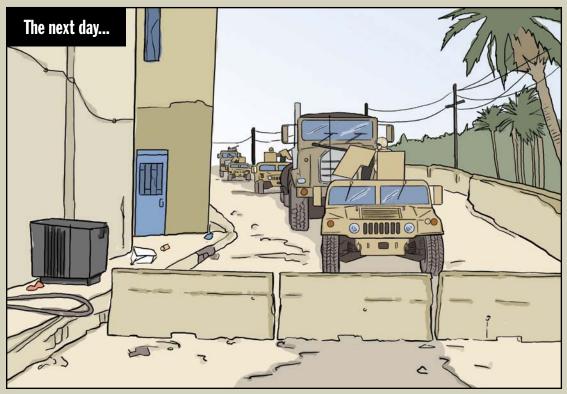






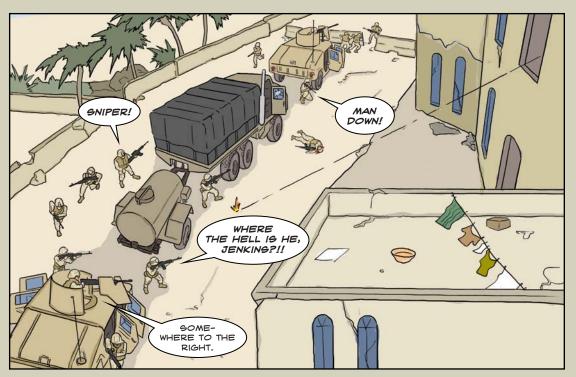


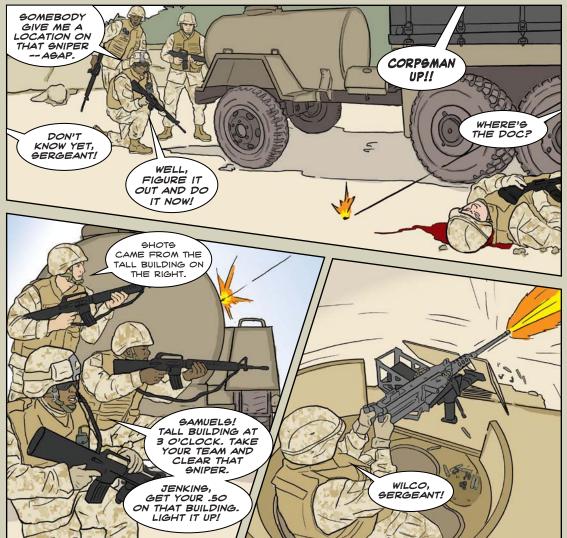


















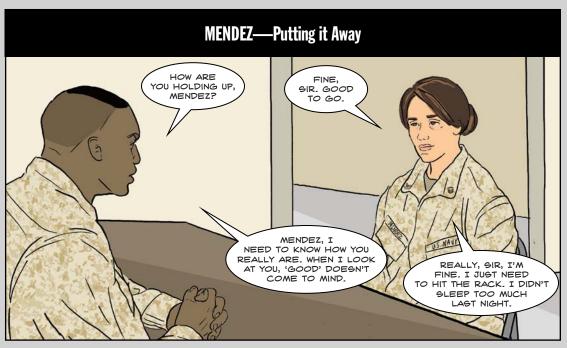


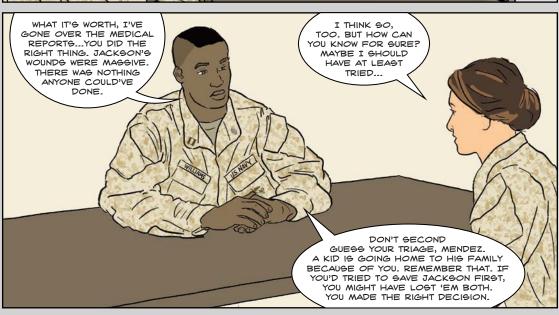




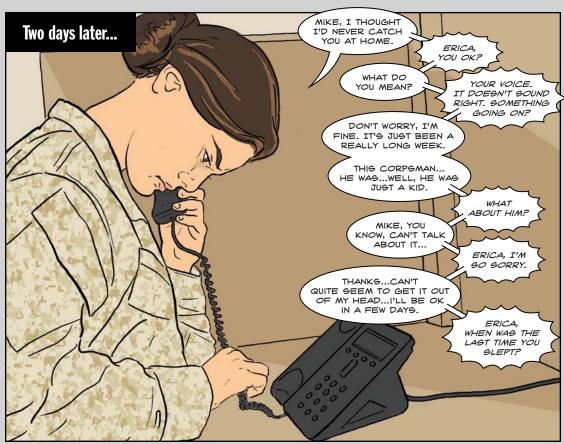












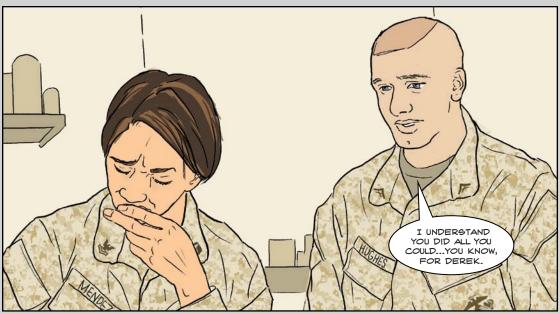




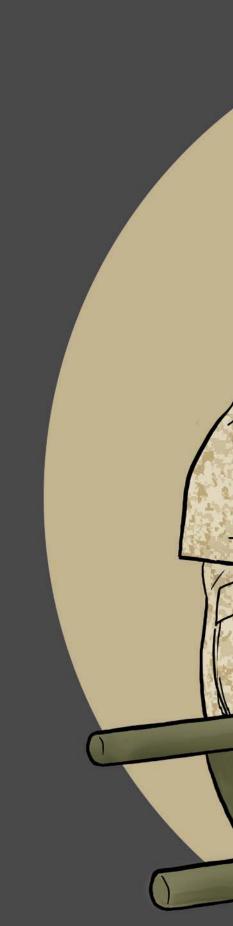


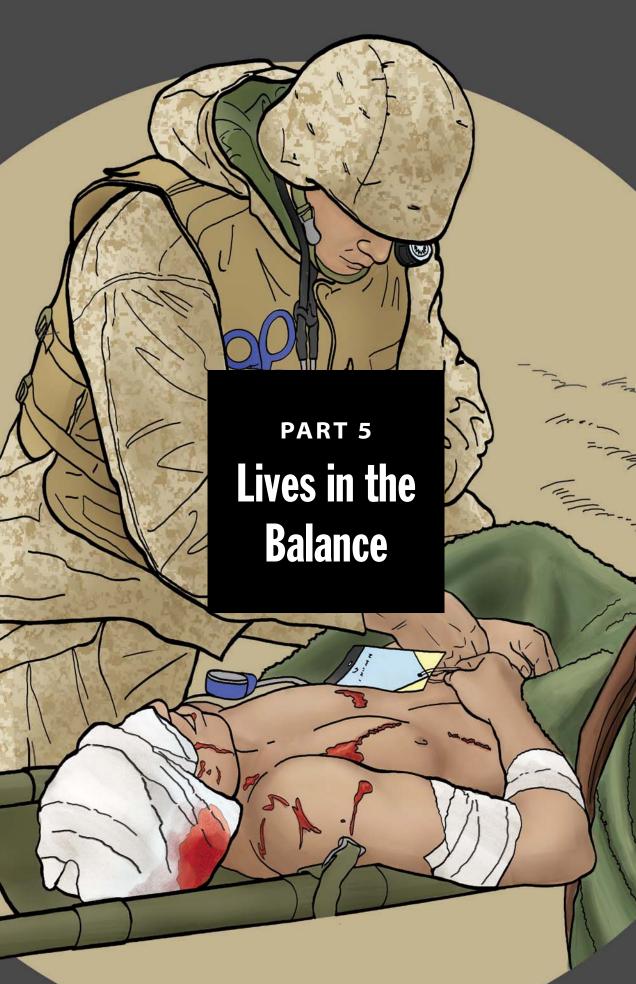
















































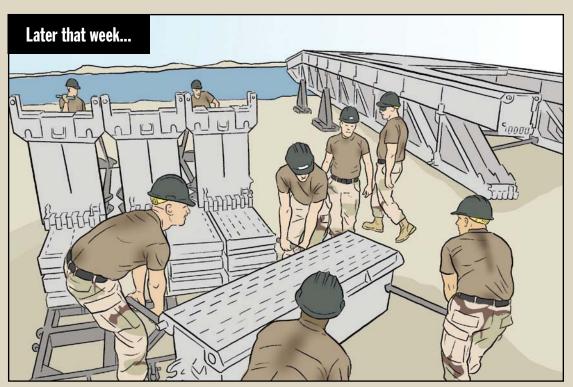






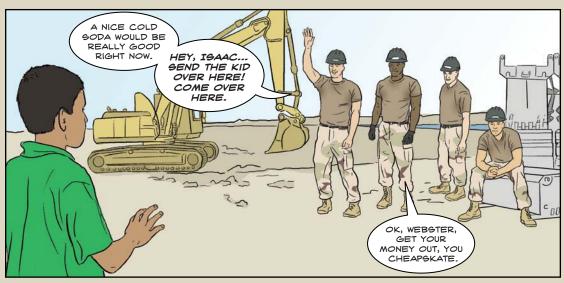








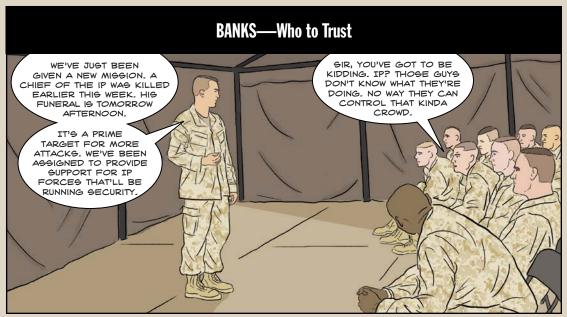






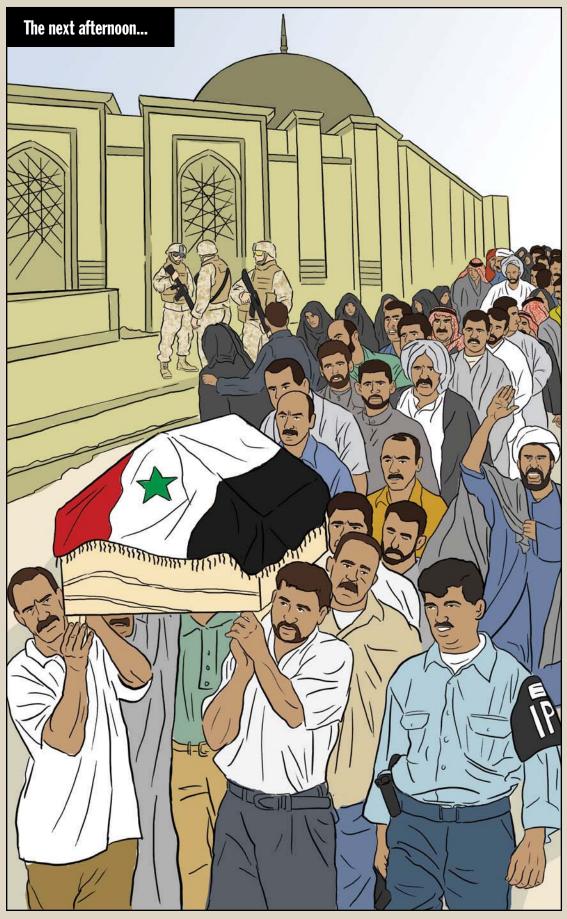






























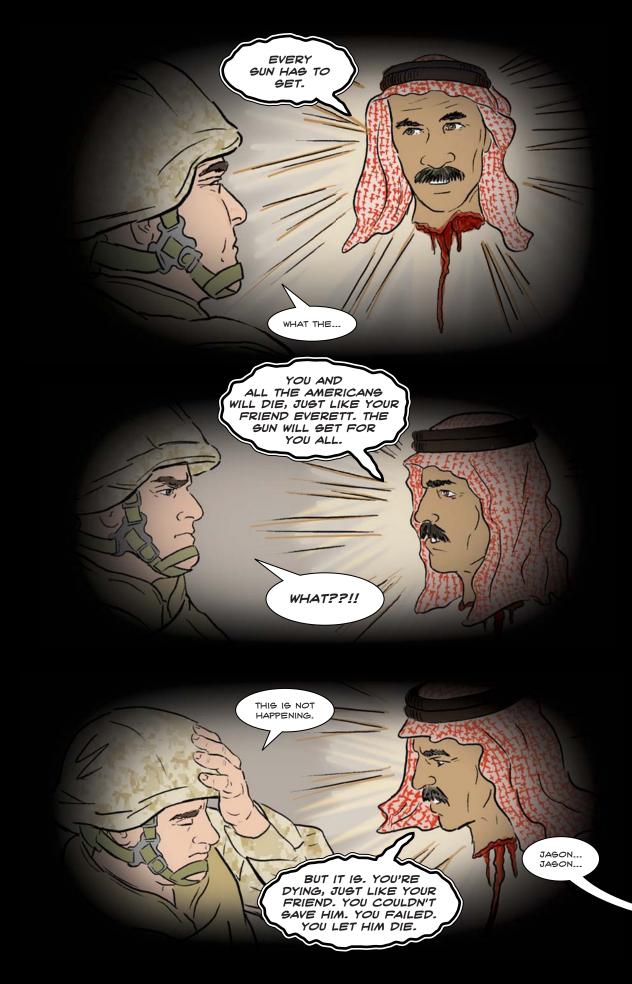


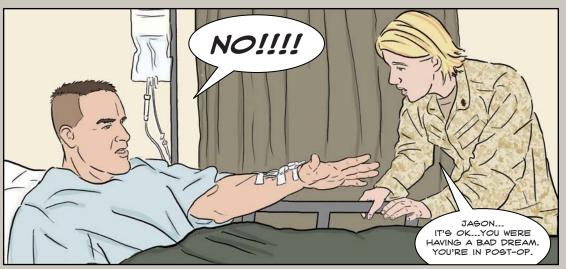


HE JUST LOST CONSCIOUSNESS. NEED TO GET HIM BACK TO SURGICAL ASAP. HE'S LOST A LOT OF BLOOD.

A hard realization...















WALLACE—An Unspeakable Act















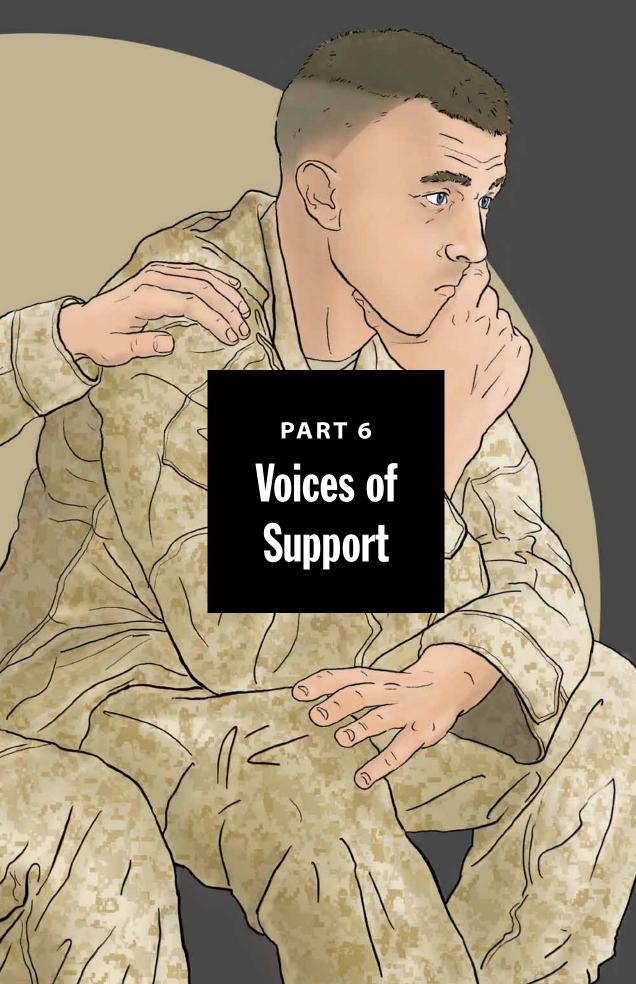


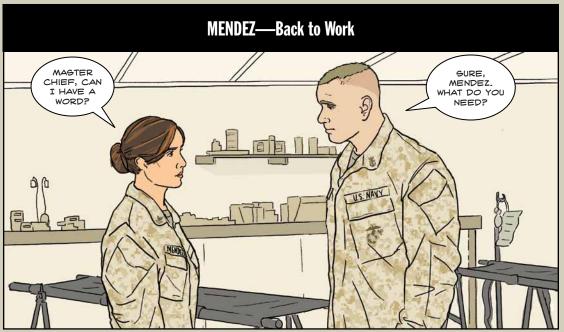










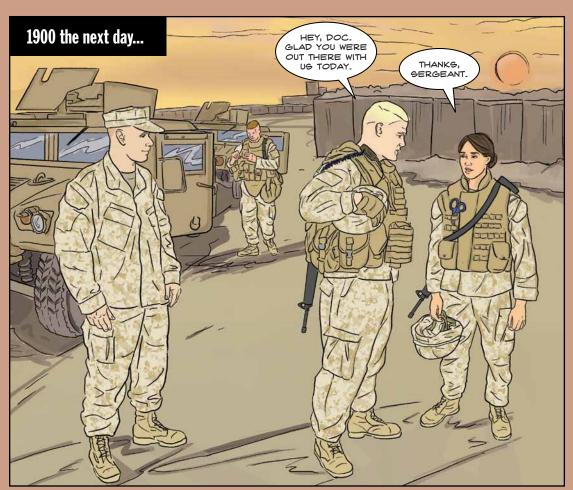




















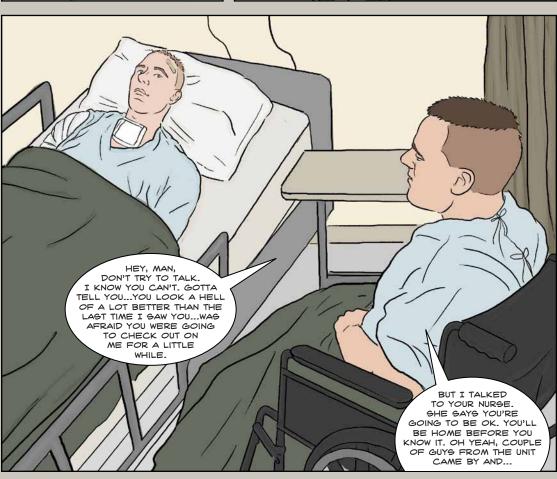








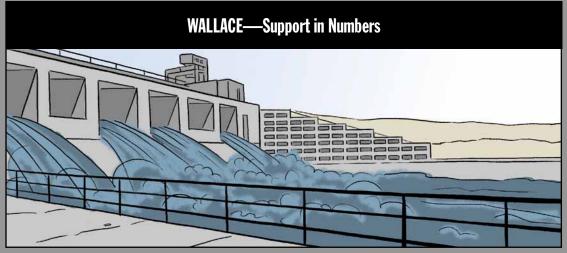




















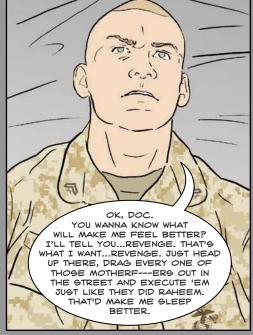


























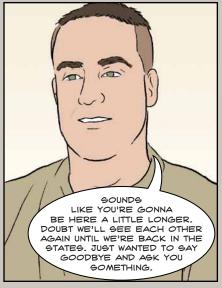


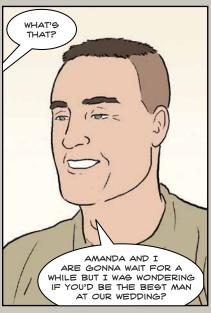






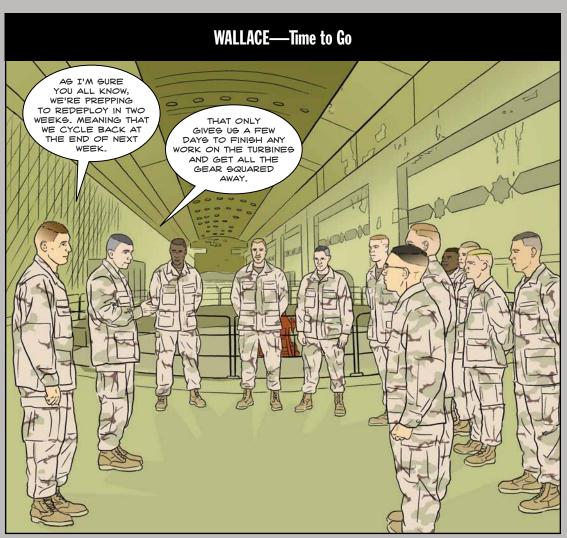
























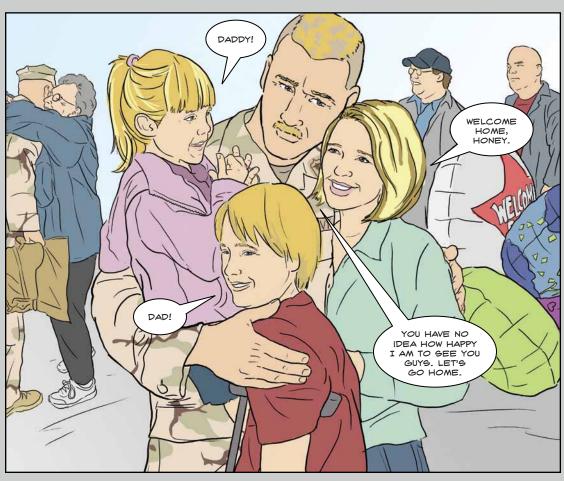














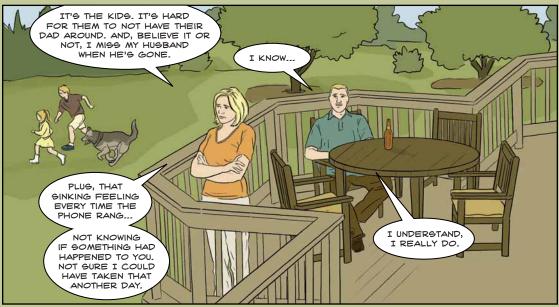
WALLACE—Looking Forward





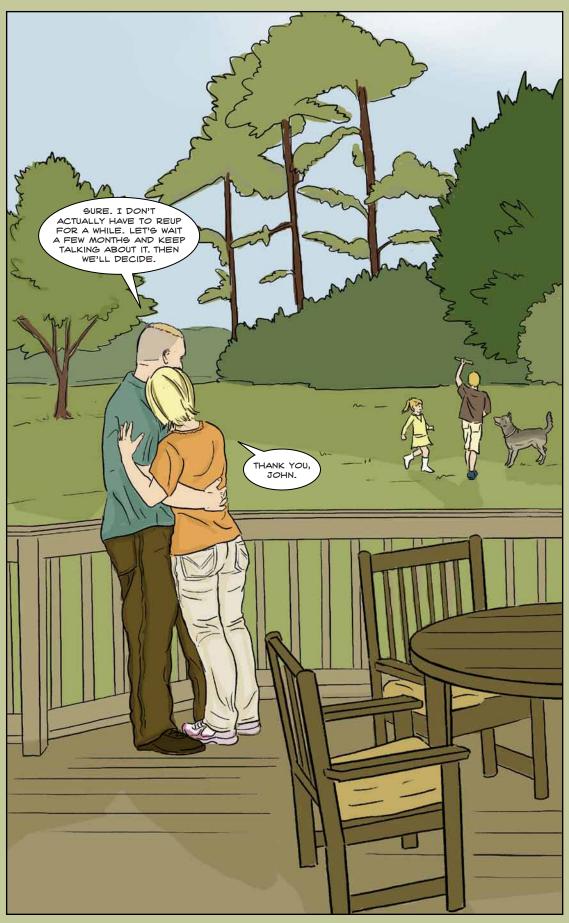












BANKS—A New Hope











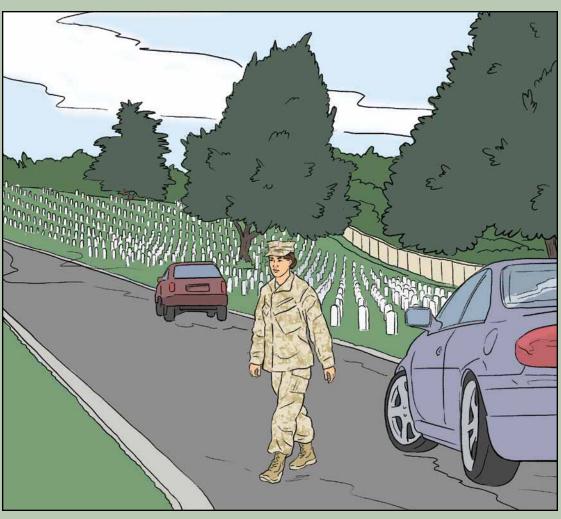




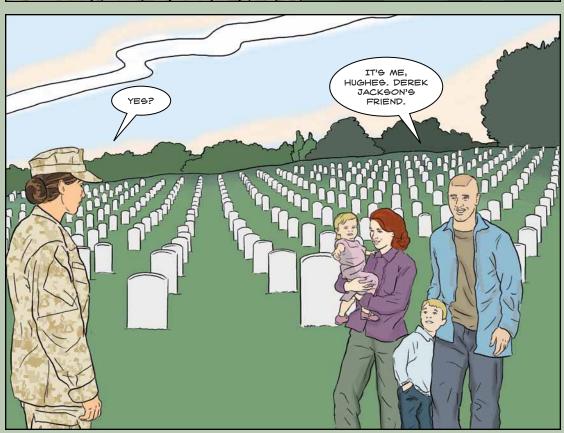


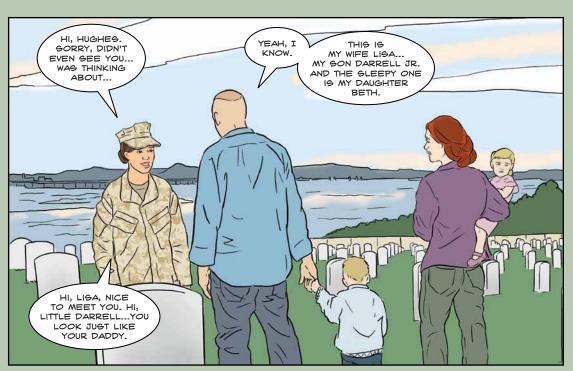


MIKE, DO YOU EVER PICK UP YOUR CELL? WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW THAT I NEED TO PUSH OUR RIN BACK TO 1900. I'VE GOT SOMETHING IMPORTANT THAT I'VE BEEN MEANING TO DO FOR A WHILE, SEE YOU AT THE BEACH.



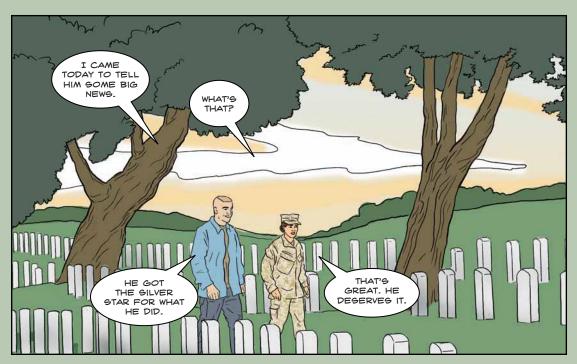














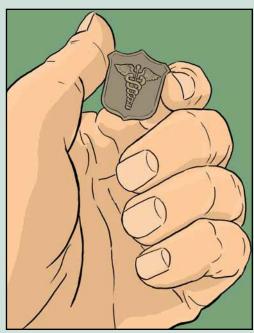




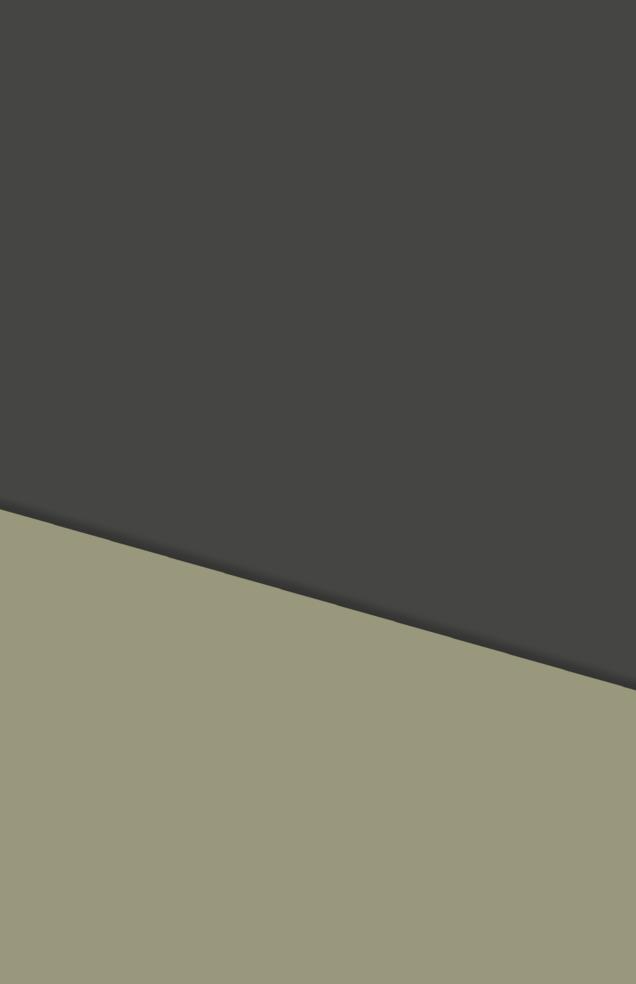












RESOURCES

The following resources were used in developing *The Docs*:

Hughey, M. (Ed.) (2001). *Operational medicine: Health care in military* settings (NAVMED P 5139) [CD-ROM]. Wilmette, IL: Medical Education Division, Brookside Associates; Washington, DC: Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, U.S. Department of the Navy; MacDill AFB, FL: U.S. Special Operations Command. (Available from CAPT Mike Hughey, MC, USNR [Fmr.], doc@operationalmedicine.org.)

Scalera, B. (2006). *Comic artist's photo reference: People and poses*. Cincinnati, OH: Impact.

Simon, M. (2005). *Facial expressions: A visual reference for artists.* New York: Watson-Guptill.

Technical consultant: Ben Beatty, PhD, MPH, CHES. Beatty is a veteran with 18 years of service: 12 years in the Marine Corps and 6 years in the Navy during his enlistment.

Photos of Hudson's Hardware courtesy of Leigh Hudson, Garner, NC.

Photos of Marines coming home from Iraq to Camp Pendleton, CA, courtesy of Melinda Applegate, Tempe, AZ.

Iraq combat photos courtesy of William P. Nash, MD, CAPT, MC, USN (Ret.).

Photos and information from the following Web sites: http://www.news.navy.mil, http://www.navy.mil, http://www.marines.mil, http://www.marinecorpstimes.com, http://www.defenselink.mil, http://www.defenseimagery.mil, http://www.army.mil, http://www.armymedicine.army.mil.



"There are Corpsmen and then there are 'docs'.... A doc is someone you can count on. He's someone in your platoon that when something happens to one of our fellow Marines, you can call on him and not have to worry. He's your buddy, a comrade in arms, a person who you count on to cover your back, to lay down fire, dig fighting holes or do whatever the hell Marines are doing. That's who a doc is."

— Field Medical Service School (FMSS): The Making of a Fleet Marine Force Corpsman, Navy News Service http://usmilitary.about.com/od/navytrng/a/fmss.htm

The Docs deals with situations that are best understood by adults and is not meant for readers under 18 years of age.